THE MINISTEB OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALEY RAMA-CHANDRAN): (a) The average yield of sugarcane per hectare during 1991-92 in the selected States is as follows:—

	(*Tonnes per hectare*)
Maharashtra (P)	79.7
Uttar Pradesh (P)	55.6
Haryana	55.9
Bihar	48.8

P— Provisional

As per 1989-90 statistics (latest available), the average yield of sugarcane in West and East Uttar Pradesh separately was 58.8 and 48.1 tonnes per hectare respectively.

(b) The average yield of sugarcane in the country has been increasing

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A new Sugarcane Research-cum-Development Scheme-Sugarcane Adaptive Research Project (SARP) is in operation from October 1989 on a five year term. Funds to the tune of Rs. 22.78 crore were provided by the Ministry of Food (Sugarcane Development fund) and is operated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in nine States. The major thrust is in the following areas:

(i) Seed Production Programme aimed at providing adequate seed materiel of high yielding and quality sugarcane varieties.

(ii) Front line demonstration in the farmers' field.

(iii) Improving yields of ratoon crep and sugarcane crop subjected to water logging.

Milk procurement prices by NDDB

3310. SHRI SOM PAL:

DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the decision of Government to delicence milk processing industry has been reversed by promulgating the Milk and Milk Products Order 1992;

(b) if so, what is the rationale of subjecting this agro-based industry to such restrictions;

(c) whether some details study has been made on the economy of milk production by farmers before taking the decision;

(d) what is the cost break-up which forms the basis for fixing milk procurement price by the NDDB for various regions of India;

(e) whether NDDB guarantee to lift all the stock offered by milk producers round the year; and

(f) the details of the quantity of milk offered to and lifted by NDDB and the procurement prices and issue prices offered by NDDB during the past five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKAJ.: (a) and (b) With a view to maintain and increase the supply of liquid milk of desired quality in the interests of the general public, the Government issued the Milk and Milk Product Order on 9th June, 1992 under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for regulating the production, supply and distribution of milk and milk product. The Order extends to the whole of Indie.

(c) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.